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instructions for removing at said simulator system said cookie information from said URL;

instructions for formatting at said simulator system a cookie from said cookie information; and

instructions for transmitting a remaining portion of said URL and said cookie from said simulator system to said host server system.

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated January 28, 2004. All rejections and objections of the Examiner are respectfully traversed. Reconsideration and further examination is respectfully requested.

At paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-56 for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103, citing the combination of United States patent number 5,774,670 of Montulli ("Montulli") and "Simulating Cookies with the Cookie Munger" published by Microsoft Corporation ("Cookie Munger"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Montulli discloses a persistent client state in a hypertext transfer protocol based client-server system. The Montulli system transfers state information *between a server computer system and a client computer system*. As described by Montulli, an HTTP client requests a file, such as an HTML document, on an HTTP server, and the HTTP server transmits the file to the HTTP client. The HTTP server of Montulli transmits a state object, which describes certain state information, to the HTTP client. The HTTP client of Montulli stores the state object, and sends the state object back to the HTTP server when making later requests for files on the HTTP server.

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The client system of Montulli includes instructions specifying operations such as receiving and storing the state information. The Montulli server system, the instructions specify operations such as sending the state information to a client system. See Abstract.

The Montulli system includes a server computer system capable of sending documents over a network, and a client computer system which can request these documents or files from the server. The client system of Montulli stores the state information, which is typically in the form of a state object. In a subsequent request for documents to the server, the Montulli *client can send the stored state information to the server*. See column 2, lines 21-35.

The Cookie Munger paper describes a filter that enables Active Server Pages to work with browser programs that do not support or refuse to accept cookies. The Cookie Munger system operates by intercepting pages being sent out of a server system before they are transmitted from the server system in, order to after a server receives a request for a URL to then intercept the request before it is passed on for further processing. Similarly, the Cookie Munger system operates by intercepting requests to a server system after they have been received by the server system, in order to determine whether the requests should be handled by the Cookie Munger filter.

Nowhere in the combination of Montulli and Cookie Munger is there disclosed or suggested any system or method for transferring information from a server system to a client system that operates by:

receiving, after transmission from said server system, *at a simulator system disposed between said server system and said client system*, network data that includes a portion having state information;

removing, *at said simulator system*, said portion from said network data;

appending, *at said simulator system*, said state information to at least one address corresponding to a link located in a remaining portion of said network data; and

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transmitting said remaining portion of said network data from said simulator system to said client system. (emphasis added)

As in the present claim 1. Independent claims 9, 17, 25, 33, 34, 35, 43, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55 and 56 include analogous features. In contrast, Montulli is only concerned with client system to server system, and server system to client system communications, with the removal and storage of the state information being performed at the client system for return later to the server system. The Cookie Munger system operates completely on the server system side for those situations where the client system does not support cookies. Applicants specifically note that the Cookie Munger system intercepts pages to be sent to the client *before they are transmitted from the server system*, as stated in step 2 on page 2 of the Cookie Munger paper. With regard to requests, Cookie Munger receives requests transmitted by the client system at the server system, and then performs the interception. Neither Montulli nor Cookie Munger include any teaching or suggestion of a system such as that of the present independent claims, which operates using a simulation system disposed between the client system and the server system to perform a cookie simulation.

For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully urge that the combination of Montulli and Cookie Munger does not disclose or suggest all the features of the present independent claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 33, 34, 35, 43, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55 and 56. Accordingly, the combination of Montulli and Cookie Munger does not support a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to independent claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 33, 34, 35, 43, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55 and 56. As to the remaining claims, they each depend from independent claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 33, 34, 35, 43, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55 and 56, and are respectfully believed to be patentable over the combination of

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Montulli and Cookie Munger for at least the same reasons. Reconsideration of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that all rejections and objection of the Examiner be withdrawn. All claims are believed to be allowable, and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone David A. Dagg, Applicants' Attorney at 978-264-6664 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date


David A. Dagg, Reg. No. 37,809
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Steubing McGuinness & Manaras LLP
125 Nagog Park Drive
Acton, MA 01720
(978) 264-6664

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